

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 IO-10

SAJ-01 /078 W

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R 211555Z APR 75

FM AMCONSUL STUTTGART

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2424

USMISSION US BERLIN

AMCONSUL BREMEN

AMCONSUL DUESSELDORF

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

AMCONSUL MUNICH

USPOLAD USAREUR VAIHINGEN

USPOLAD USEUCOM HEIDELBERG

UNCLAS STUTTGART 0380

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, GW

SUBJECT: BADEN-WUERTTEMBERG COMMUNAL ELECTIONS

1. SUMMARY: PRELIMINARY RESULTS OF APRIL 20 COMMUNAL ELECTIONS IN BADEN-WUERTTEMBERG SHOW CONSIDERABLE GAINS FOR CDU AND FDP CANDIDATES AT EXPENSE OF SPD AND INDEPENDENT VOTERS' ASSOCIATIONS COMPARED TO 1971 ELECTIONS. COMMUNIST, NPD, AND OTHER SPLINTER GROUPS POLLED LESS THAN 2 PER CENT OF VOTES. FINAL RESULTS NOT AVAILABLE FOR SEVERAL DAYS DUE TO COMPLICATED ELECTORAL SYSTEM. PERSONALITIES AND LOCAL ISSUES DOMINATED ELECTIONS WHICH ARE NOT VIEWED LOCALLY TO HAVE BROADER POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. BALLOTING. BADEN-WUERTTEMBERG COMMUNAL ELECTIONS TO FILL ABOUT 17,000 SEATS OF MUNICIPAL COUNCILS  
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IN ABOUT 1,100 COMMUNITIES TOOK PLACE ON APRIL 20. PAR-

TICIPATION BETWEEN 60 AND 65 PER CENT ROUGHLY THE SAME AS IN PREVIOUS LOCAL ELECTIONS. DUE TO COMPLICATED BADEN-WUERTTEMBERG ELECTORAL SYSTEM, TABULATIONS OF FINAL RESULTS WILL NOT BE COMPLETED FOR SEVERAL DAYS. COMBINING THE SYSTEMS OF DUMULIEREN (ACCUMULATION OF UP TO 3 VOTES FOR ONE CANDIDATE BY STRIKING OUT EQUAL NUMBER OF OTHER CANDIDATES) AND PANASCHIEREN (A FORM OF BALLOT SPLITTING), THE SYSTEM IS NOT ONLY DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND, BUT IT ALSO LESSENS THE POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND FOCUSES ATTENTION MORE ON PERSONALITIES AND LOCAL ISSUES.

3. INITIAL RESULTS INDICATE BADEN-WUERTTEMBERG CAPITAL STUTTGART, AN SPD STRONGHOLD IN THE PAST, CAPTURED BY DCU. PRELIMINARY STUTTGART RESULTS AS FOLLOWS:

	1971	1975
SPD	44.3	37.7 PER CENT
CDU	33.3	42.4 " "
FDP	8.1	10.1 " "
FREE VOTERS ASSOCIATIONS	7.3	4.6. " "

SPLINTER GROUPS SUCH AS COMMUNISTS AND NPD REMAIN UNDER 2 PER CENT. OTHER LARGE CITIES SHOW SIMILAR TRENDS.

COMMENT: AS IN PAST YEARS, LOCAL ISSUES AND PERSONALITIES SEEM TO HAVE DOMINATED ELECTION. RECENT COMMUNAL REFORM SEEMS NOT TO HAVE HAD SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON RESULTS DESPITE CONSIDERABLE DISSATISFACTION. FACT THAT FDP GAINED SOME PERCENTAGES HERE AND THERE IS NOT VIEWED AS INDICATION THAT IT HELD ITS OWN IN BADEN-WUERTTEMBERG, BUT STEMS PARTLY FROM FACT THAT FDP DID NOT HAVE LISTS OF ITS OWN IN NUMBER OF COMMUNITIES IN PAST LOCAL ELECTIONS AND ITS CANDIDATES ON "MIXED LISTS" WERE THUS NOT IDENTIFIED AS FDP. POST WILL STUDY FINAL RESULTS TO DETERMINE IF ANY SIGNIFICANT BROADER POLITICAL TRENDS ARE DISCERNIBLE. CARLSON

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TICAL TRENDS ARE DISCERNIBLE. CARLSON

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## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** PINT, GE  
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